

B1

as opposed to limiting it in any manner.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 53, 60, 64, 67, 72, 73, 80, 84, 87, 92, 93, 98, 99, 106-108, 112-115, 119-123, and 143, as follows:

B2

53. (Amended) A gaming system, comprising:

- a plurality of game terminals, each game terminal including
 - means for receiving a wager amount for a game from a player,
 - means for displaying the result of the game, and
 - means for transmitting game information for each game for which the wager amount was received; and
- a central controller, connected to each of the plurality of game terminals, and including
 - means for receiving, from the game terminals, the transmitted game information for each game for which the wager amount was received; and
 - means for adjusting player account information after each game for which a wager amount was received.

Sub B3

60. (Amended) A gaming system, comprising:

a plurality of game terminals, each game terminal including

means for receiving a game choice and a wager amount for a game from a player,

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

133 means for displaying the result of the game, and
means for transmitting game information after the wager amount is received, the
game information including the wager amount; and
a central controller, connected to each of the plurality of game terminals, and including
means for receiving, from the game terminals, the transmitted game information
after the wager amount is received.

PubD3
B4 64. (Amended) The system of claim 60, wherein the game information further includes
at least one of the result of the game, player's updated account balance, a game terminal number,
a game type code, a game number, a date, and a time.

Sub
CB 67. (Amended) A gaming system, comprising:
a plurality of game terminals, each game terminal including
means for receiving a game choice and a wager amount for a game from a player,
means for displaying the result of the game, and
means for transmitting game information for each game for which the wager
amount was received; and
a central controller, connected to each of the plurality of game terminals, and including
means for receiving, from the game terminals, the transmitted game information
for each game for which the wager amount was received, and

135
FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

B5 means for adjusting player account information of the player after each game according to the result of the game for which the wager amount was received.

SubP31 72. (Amended) The system of claim 67, wherein the game information further includes at least one of the wager amount, result of the game, player's updated account balance, a game terminal number, a game type code, a game number, a date, and a time.

B6 73. (Amended) A method of operating games in a system that includes a plurality of game terminals and a central controller, the method comprising:
receiving, at one of the plurality of game terminals, a game choice and a wager amount for a game, from a player;
displaying the result of the game; and
transmitting, by one of the plurality of game terminals, game information to the central controller after each game for which the wager amount was received.

SubP32 80. (Amended) A method of operating games in a system that includes a plurality of game terminals and a central controller for storing a player account balance, the method comprising:

B7 receiving, at one of the plurality of game terminals, a game choice and a wager amount for a game, from a player;

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

displaying the result of the game; and
transmitting, by one of the plurality of game terminals, game information to the central controller each time a wager amount is received to enable the central controller to adjust the player account balance on a per-game basis.

84. (Amended) The method of claim 80, further comprising transmitting, by one of the plurality of game terminals, additional game information to the central controller after each game for which the wager amount was received, the additional game information including at least one of the result of the game, player's updated account balance, a game terminal number, a game type code, a game number, a date, and a time.

87. (Amended) A method of operating games in a system that includes a plurality of game terminals and a central controller, the method comprising:
receiving, at one of the plurality of game terminals, a game choice and a wager amount for a game, from a player;
displaying the result of the game;
transmitting, by one of the plurality of game terminals, game information to the central controller for each game for which the wager amount was received; and
adjusting, by the central controller, player account information of the player on a per-game basis.

Sub D3

92. (Amended) The method of claim 87, further comprising transmitting, by one of the plurality of game terminals, additional game information to the central controller after each game for which the wager amount was received, the additional game information including at least one of the wager amount, result of the game, player's updated account balance, a game terminal number, a game type code, a game number, a date, and a time.

B10

310

93. (Amended) A game terminal for a gaming system that includes a central controller, the game terminal comprising:

- means for receiving a game choice and a wager amount for a game from a player;
- means for displaying the result of the game; and
- means for transmitting game information to the central controller each time a wager amount is received.

Sub D3

98. (Amended) A game terminal for a gaming system that includes a central controller, the game terminal comprising:

- means for receiving a game choice and a wager amount for a game from a player;
- means for displaying the result of the game; and
- means for transmitting game information to the central controller after each game for which the wager amount was received to enable the central controller to update a player account on a per-game basis.

Sub D3
BTI

99. (Amended) The game terminal of claim 98, wherein the game information further includes at least one of the wager amount, result of the game, player's updated account balance, a game terminal number, a game type code, a game number, a date, and a time.

Sub
C14

106. (Amended) A central controller for a gaming system that includes a plurality of game terminals, the central controller comprising:

means for storing a player account balance for a player;

means for receiving, from a game terminal, game information every time a wager amount is received by the game terminal; and

means for adjusting the player account balance on a per-game basis.

Sub D3
112

107. (Amended) The central controller of claim 106, wherein the game information further includes at least one of the wager amount, result of the game, player's updated account balance, a game terminal number, a game type code, a game number, a date, and a time.

108. (Amended) The central controller of claim 106, wherein the means for adjusting adjusts player account information after each game according to the result of the game for which the wager amount was received.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

Sub
B13

112. (Amended) A method of operating games in a system that includes a plurality of

game terminals and a central controller, the method comprising:

communicating with each of the plurality of game terminals;

receiving game information from the game terminals for each game for which a wager amount was received by the game terminals, the game information including the wager amount; and

adjusting player account information on a per-game basis.

B 13
Sub D3
113. (Amended) The method of claim 112, further comprising receiving, at the central controller, additional game information after each game for which a wager amount was received by the game terminals, the additional game information including at least one of the result of the game, player's updated account balance, a game terminal number, a game type code, a game number, a date, and a time.

114. (Amended) The method of claim 112, wherein adjusting player account information on a per-game basis further comprises adjusting, at the central controller, player account information after each game according to the result of the game for which the wager amount was received.

115. (Amended) A central controller for a gaming system that includes a plurality of game terminals, the central controller comprising:

B13

means for communicating with each of the plurality of game terminals;
means for receiving, from the game terminals, game information after each game for which a wager amount was received by the game terminals; and
means for adjusting player account information after each game according to the result of the game for which the wager amount was received.

B13

119. (Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for causing a computer to perform a method of operating games in a system that includes a plurality of game terminals and a central controller, the method comprising:

B14

B14

communicating with each of the plurality of game terminals; and
receiving, at the central controller, game information from the game terminals for each game for which a wager amount was received by the game terminals, the game information including the wager amount; and
adjusting player account information on a per-game basis.

Sub D3

B15

120. (Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 119, wherein the method further comprises receiving, at the central controller, additional game information after each game for which a wager amount was received by the game terminals, the additional game information including at least one of the result of the game, player's updated account balance, a game terminal number, a game type code, a game number, a date, and a time.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

Sub D3
121. (Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 119, wherein the adjusting of player account information further comprises adjusting, at the central controller, player account information after each game according to the result of the game for which the wager amount was received.

Sub D3
122. (Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for causing a computer to perform a method of operating games in a system that includes a plurality of game terminals and a central controller, the method comprising:
communicating with each of the plurality of game terminals;
receiving, at the central controller, game information from the game terminals each time a wager amount is received by the game terminals; and
adjusting, at the central controller, player account information according to the result of the game for which the wager amount was received.

Sub D3
123. (Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 122, wherein the method further comprises receiving, at the central controller, additional game information after each game for which a wager amount was received by the game terminals, the additional game information including at least one of the wager amount, result of the game, player's updated account balance, a game terminal number, a game type code, a game number, a date, and a time.

Sub D3
B15

143. (Amended) A gaming method, comprising:
receiving, at a game terminal, a game choice and a wager amount for a game from a player;
displaying, at the game terminal, the result of the game; and
transmitting, from the game terminal to a central controller, game information after each game for which the wager amount was received to enable the central controller to update a player account on a per-game basis.

Please add new claims 145-157, as follows:

Sub C11
B18

145. (New) A central controller for a gaming system that includes a plurality of game terminals, the central controller comprising:
a database to store player account balances for a plurality of players;
an interface to receive, from the plurality of game terminals, game information each time a wager amount is received by a game terminal; and
a processor for adjusting the player account balances after each game for which a wager amount is received by the game terminals.

Sub D3

146. (New) The central controller of claim 145, further comprising:
an interface to send, to the plurality of game terminals, the adjusted player account balance for each game for which a wager amount is received by the game terminals.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

7/12 SUB
147. (New) A method of operating games in a system that includes a plurality of game terminals connected to a central controller, the method comprising:
storing player account balances for a plurality of players;
receiving, from the plurality of game terminals, game information every time a wager amount is received by the game terminal; and
adjusting a player account balance after each game for which a wager amount is received by the game terminals.

8/18
148. (New) The central controller of claim 147, further comprising:
sending, to at least one of the plurality of game terminals, the adjusted player account balance for each game for which a wager amount is received by the game terminals.

8/13 SUB
149. (New) A gaming system comprising:
a plurality of game terminals; and
a central computer, connected to each of the plurality of game terminals, and including
a database for storing player account information for a plurality of players, and
a processor for updating player account information on a per-game basis.

150. (New) A game terminal for a gaming system that includes a central controller for storing player account information for a plurality of players, the game terminal comprising:

CB
an input device to receive a wager amount for a game from the player;
a display to display the result of the game; and
an interface to send, to the central controller, game information each time a wager amount is received by the input device to enable the central controller to update player account information on a per-game basis.

Pub 23
B116
151. (New) The method of claim 80, further comprising:

receiving an adjusted player account balance from the central controller.

152. (New) The method of claim 80, further comprising:
receiving a game result from the central computer.

153. (New) The method claim 151, further comprising:
determining an adjusted player account balance independently of the calculation performed by the central computer.

154. (New) The method of claim 153, further comprising:
comparing the adjusted player account balance from the central controller to the adjusted player account balance determined independently of the calculation performed by the central computer.